

KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 1120
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-1120
Phone: (502) 582-5293 or 1-800-928-5277
E-mail: nass-ky@nass.usda.gov
and the
Kentucky Department of Agriculture
Billy Ray Smith, Commissioner

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FEATURING: ♦ Cattle ♦ Sheep ♦ Cattle on Feed ♦ Cold Storage ♦ Slaughter

KENTUCKY CATTLE NUMBERS RISE SLIGHTLY

Still trying to bounce back from the drought of 1999, cattle numbers in **Kentucky** grew slightly in 2000. Total Cattle and Calves on Kentucky farms January 1, 2001 numbered 2.26 million head, up 1 percent from a 39 year low of 2.23 million head last year. Inventory levels were down from January 1, 2000 for milk replacement heifers and calves less than 500 pounds.

Bulls and milk cows remained unchanged, while all other inventory levels were up. All Cow inventory for 2001 totaled 1.19 million head up from 1.18 million in 2000. Beef cow inventory was up 1 percent from last year to 1.06 million. Milk cows remained at a record low level of 130,000 head. Bulls over 500 pounds

totalled 70,000 head, unchanged from 2000. Heifers over 500 pounds inventory was set at 300,000 head, up 11 percent from a year ago. Beef replacement heifers were also up from the previous year totaling 160,000 head, a 10 percent increase. Milk replacement heifers dropped 11 percent to 40,000 head, while heifers for other uses increased 25 percent to 100,000 head. Steers over 500 pounds totaled 200,000, 11 percent above the previous year. Calves under 500 pounds dropped 6 percent to 500,000 head.

The 2000 calf crop was estimated at 1.09 million head, 3 percent below the 1999 level. Cattle on feed for slaughter totaled 20,000 head, up from 15,000 head on January 1, 2000.

U.S. class estimates on January 1, 2001 and the changes from January 1 last year and two years ago, respectively, are as follows:

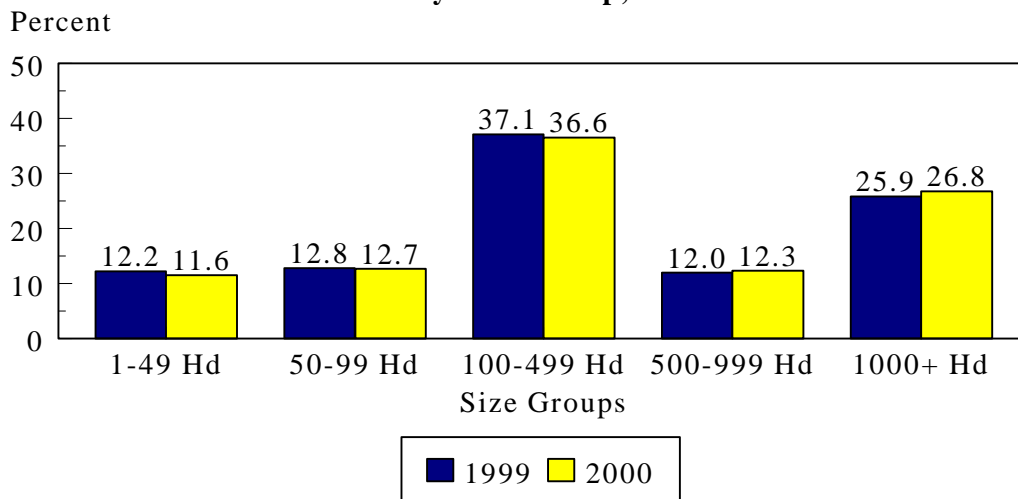
- - **All cattle and calves**, 97.3 million, down 1 percent and down 2 percent.
- - **All cows and heifers that have calved**, 42.6 million, down slightly and down 1 percent.
- - **Beef cows**, 33.4 million, down 1 percent and down 1 percent.
- - **Milk cows**, 9.20 million, up slightly and up 1 percent.
- - **All heifers 500 pounds and over**, 19.8 million, up 1 percent and up slightly.
- - **Beef replacement heifers**, 5.59 million, up 2 percent and up 1 percent.
- - **Milk replacement heifers**, 4.05 million, up 1 percent and down 1 percent.
- - **Other heifers**, 10.1 million, down slightly and down slightly.
- - **Steers weighing 500 pounds and over**, 16.4 million, down 1 percent and down 3 percent.
- - **Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over**, 2.27 million, down 1 percent and down slightly.
- - **Calves under 500 pounds**, 16.2 million, down 4 percent and down 6 percent.
- - **All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter**, 14.2 million, up 1 percent and up 7 percent.

CATTLE AND CALVES NUMBER BY CLASS, CATTLE ON FEED, AND CALF CROP JANUARY 1, 2000 - 2001

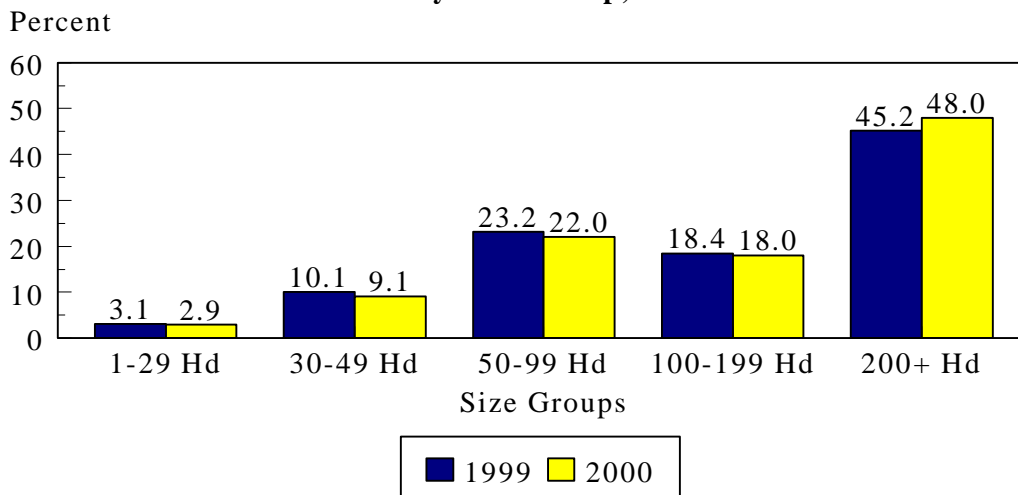
CLASS	KENTUCKY			UNITED STATES		
	2000 1/	2001	01 % of 00	2000 1/	2001	01 % of 00
	(1,000 Head)			(1,000 Head)		
Cattle and Calves	2,230	2,260	101	98,198	97,309	99
Cows and Heifers	1,180	1,190	101	42,759	42,603	100
(That have calved)						
Beef Cows	1,050	1,060	101	33,569	33,400	99
Milk Cows	130	130	100	9,190	9,203	100
Heifers 500 Lbs & over	270	300	111	19,649	19,775	101
Beef Cow Replacement	145	160	110	5,503	5,588	102
Milk Cow Replacement	45	40	89	4,000	4,047	101
Other Heifers	80	100	125	10,147	10,140	100
Steers 500 Lbs & Over	180	200	111	16,682	16,438	99
Bulls 500 Lbs & Over	70	70	100	2,293	2,272	99
Calves Under 500 Lbs	530	500	94	16,815	16,221	96
Cattle on Feed 2/	15	20	133	14,003	14,199	101
Calf Crop (Preceding Year)	1,120	1,090	97	38,796	38,621	100

1/ Revised. 2/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. Cattle and calves on feed are included in the cattle inventory estimates by classes.

U.S. CATTLE INVENTORY Percent by Size Group, 1999-2000



U.S. MILK COW INVENTORY Percent by Size Group, 1999-2000



SHEEP INVENTORY INCREASES

Kentucky's sheep and lamb inventory totaled 20,000 head on January 1, 2001, up 1,000 head from January 1, 2000. There were 12,000 breeding ewes one year old and older, up 500 from the previous year. Replacement lambs for breeding, at 2,500 head, showed no change from the previous year. Lamb crop for 2000 totaled 14,500 head, up 500 from 1999. Market sheep and lambs totaled 4,000 head, unchanged from the previous year.

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2001, totaled 6.92 million head, down 2 percent from 2000 and 4 percent below two years ago. The inventory has trended down since 1942 when it reached a peak of 56.2 million head. Breeding sheep inventory declined to 4.93 million head on January 1, 2001, down 5 percent from 5.16

million head on January 1, 2000. Ewes one year old and older, at 4.06 million head, were 4 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2001, totaled 1.99 million head, up 6 percent from January 1, 2000. Market lambs comprised 96 percent of the total. Twenty-four percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 18 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 24 percent 85 - 105 pounds, 30 percent were over 105 pounds, and 4 percent were market sheep.

The 2000 lamb crop of 4.62 million head was down 2 percent from 1999 to a new record low. The 2000 lambing rate was 109 per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2000, compared with 110 in 1999. The number of operations with sheep during 2000 totaled 66,000, down 1 percent from 1999 and 4 percent from 1998.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.8 million head on January 1, 2001. The inventory was 3 percent above January 1, 2000 and 11 percent above January 1, 1999. The inventory included 7.02 million steers and steer calves, up 3 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 59 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.70 million head, up 3 percent from January 1, 2000.

Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.70 million, 3 percent above 1999 and 12 percent above 1998. Net placements were 1.60 million. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 504,000, 600-699 pounds were 516,000, 700-799 pounds were 406,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 273,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.75 million, 5 percent below 1999 and 4 percent below 1998. December 2000 had two less slaughter days than December 1999 which limited slaughter and affected the year-to-year relationship for marketings. **Other disappearance** totaled 95,000 during December, 6 percent above 1999 and 12 percent above 1998.

CATTLE ON FEED 7 STATES 1/

Cattle on feed January 1, 2001, in the 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.1 million, up 3 percent from the previous year and 12 percent above January 1, 1999. The inventory included 5.94 million steers and steer calves, up 3 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 59 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.08 million head, up 4 percent from January 1, 2000.

Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.44 million, 2 percent above 1999 and 15 percent above 1998.

Marketings during December totaled 1.50 million, 6 percent below 1999 and 4 percent below 1998. December 2000 had two less slaughter days than December 1999 which limited slaughter and affected the year-to-year relationship for marketings.

Other disappearance during December was 77,000 head, up 3 percent from 1999 and 12 percent above 1998.

1/AZ, CA, CO, IA, KS, NE, and TX.

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on December 31, 2000 were greater than year earlier levels for red meat, fruit, orange juice, and potatoes. Cooler stocks of pecans and apples were also higher than a year earlier.

All U S. Warehouse Stocks				Dec 00 as % of	
Commodity	Dec 31 1999	Nov 30 2000	Dec 31 2000	Dec 1999	Nov 2000
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken:					
Broilers (Whole)	34,692	31,733	28,325	82	89
Other Chicken	760,904	717,072	770,100	101	107
Total Chicken <u>1/</u>	803,359	756,845	807,540	101	107
Turkey	254,251	260,797	241,833	95	93
Total Frozen Poultry <u>2/</u>	1,061,370	1,021,968	1,052,776	99	103
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	314,162	398,827	381,058	121	96
Pork:					
Bellies	40,300	38,674	47,395	118	123
Total Frozen Pork <u>3/</u>	415,378	455,188	422,800	102	93
Total Meat <u>4/</u>	748,341	879,536	827,151	111	94

1/ Includes broilers, hens and other chickens. 2/ Includes chicken, turkey and ducks. 3/ Includes picnics, hams, bellies, loins, ribs, trimmings, and other frozen pork. 4/ Includes frozen beef, pork, veal, lamb and mutton, other frozen meat, canned hams, and other canned meat.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.62 billion pounds in December, down 6 percent from the 3.86 billion pounds produced in December 1999. December 1999 contained 23 weekdays and 4 Saturdays (including one holiday). December 2000 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays. Beef production, at 2.00 billion pounds, was 5 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.72 million head, down 5 percent from 1999. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,224 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.58 billion pounds, down 7 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.09 million head, 9 percent below 1999. The average live weight was 4 pounds above the previous year, at 265 pounds.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES & KENTUCKY ^{1/}

Type	December 1999	November 2000	December 2000	December 00 % of	
				December 1999	November 2000
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,113	2,169	1,998	95	92
Veal	20	18	18	87	99
Pork	1,705	1,712	1,583	93	92
Lamb & Mutton	24	20	21	88	103
Total U.S.	3,862	3,920	3,620	94	92
Total Kentucky	39.2	41.7	36.1	92	86

^{1/} Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. DECEMBER 1999 & 2000 ^{1/}

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.8	1.5	1,494	1,267	820	855
Hogs	195.7	174.5	51,524	47,079	263	270
Sheep & Lambs	0.7	0.7	79	121	120	171
United States						
Cattle	2,874.8	2,718.7	3,521,551	3,328,657	1,225	1,224
Hogs	8,884.7	8,094.4	2,320,418	2,143,352	261	265
Sheep & Lambs	355.9	300.9	47,899	41,921	135	139

^{1/} Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

Internet Access: Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service (KASS) data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) homepage located at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

STATE STATISTICIAN
LELAND E. BROWN

DEPUTY STATE STATISTICIAN
WILLIAM BRANNEN



Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 1120
Louisville, KY 40201
502-582-5293 or 1-800-928-5277

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